

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of enabling a user to instruct a computer system to perform an operation via:

an interface surface including an interface, the interface including visible graphical information and substantially invisible coded data, the coded data being indicative of the operation and an identity of the interface, the graphical information being indicative, to the user, of the operation; and

a sensing device which, when placed by the user into an operative position relative to the interface surface to designate at least some of the graphical information, senses indicating data indicative of the operation using at least some of the coded data;

a printer adapted to print the interface onto the interface surface; and

a computer system adapted to communicate with the sensing device and the printer,

the method including the steps of, in the computer system:

receiving, from the user, a request to print the interface;

instructing the printer to print the interface on the interface surface;

receiving the indicating data from the sensing device; and

performing the operation indicated by the indicating data;

~~wherein the graphical information designated by the user is at least partially indicative, to the user, of the operation.~~

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the graphical information designated by the user is adjacent, or substantially coincident with, coded data upon which the indicating data is based.

3. (original) A method according to claim 2, wherein the graphical information takes the form of any combination of:

text;

graphics;

images;

buttons;

or any combination thereof;

wherein the coded data is

4. (original) A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the coded data takes the form of one or more control tags.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein each of the control tags defines a discrete bundle of the coded data.

6. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein each of the control tags has a predetermined spatial extent on the surface.

7. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the tags take the form of bar codes.

8. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the bar codes are two-dimensional bar codes.

9. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein each control tag defines coded data that is unique compared to the coded data defined by other control tags on the same surface.

10. (original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the unique coded data associated with each control tag identifies a position of that control tag within a region of the surface.

11. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the position is identified relative to the region.

12. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the position is identified relative to other control tags on the same surface.

13. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 12~~ claim 4, wherein each of the control tags includes a common feature in addition to the coded data.

14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein the common feature is a feature for assisting in the recognition of the control tags by a sensor device.

15. (original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the common features are represented in a format incorporating redundancy of information.

16. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 12~~ claim 4, wherein each of the control tags includes one or more orientation features for enabling a rotational orientation of the control tag being read to be ascertained.

17. (original) A method according to claim 16, wherein the orientation features are represented in a format incorporating redundancy of information.

18. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 12~~ claim 4, wherein each control tag is defined by a plurality of control tag elements, the coded data being encoded in and defined by the control tag elements.

19. (original) A method according to claim 18, wherein each element takes the form of a dot having a plurality of possible values.

20. (original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the number of possible values is two.

21. (original) A method according to claim 18, wherein when representing one of the possible values, the control tag elements absorb, reflect or fluoresce electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined wavelength or range of wavelengths to a predetermined greater or lesser extent than the interface surface.

22. (original) A method according to claim 21, wherein the possible values of the control tag elements are defined by different relative absorption, reflection or fluorescence of electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined wavelength or range of wavelengths.

23. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the coded data identifies remotely stored information defining the relative position.

24. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the coded data identifies region identification information that identifies the region within which the respective coded

data is disposed.

25. (currently amended) A method according to claim 25 24, wherein the region encompasses substantially the entire surface.

26. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the coded data includes data identification information that identifies data associated with the region within which the respective coded data is disposed.

27. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 12~~ claim 4, wherein the coded data includes region identification information that identifies the region within which the respective coded data is disposed, and at least a predetermined proportion of the control tags includes the region identification information.

28. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 4 to 12~~ claim 4, wherein the coded data includes data identification information that identifies data associated with the region within which the respective coded data is disposed, and at least a predetermined proportion of the control tags includes the data identification information.

29. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein the surface is defined by a page.

30. (original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the page is paper or any other planar or laminar substrate.

31. (original) A method according to claim 30, including the initial step of printing the coded data onto the surface by means of a printer.

32. (original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the printer is an ink printer.

33. (original) A method according to claim 32, wherein the coded data is printed

34. (original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the printer also prints the graphical information onto the interface surface.

35. (original) A method according to claim 34, wherein the graphical information is printed onto the interface surface using colored or monochrome inks.

36. (original) A method according to claim 35, wherein the graphical information is printed onto the interface surface using one of the following combinations of colored inks:

CMY;

CMYK;

CMYRGB; and

spot color.

37. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, wherein the coded data is disposed on the surface in a magnetically or electrically readable form.

38. (currently amended) An interface system for enabling a user to instruct a computer system to perform an operation via:

an interface surface including an interface, the interface including visible graphical information and substantially invisible coded data, the coded data being indicative of the operation and an identity of the interface, the graphical information being indicative, to the user, of the operation; and

a sensing device which, when placed by the user into an operative position relative to the interface surface to designate at least some of the graphical information, senses indicating data indicative of the operation using at least some of the coded data;

a printer adapted to print the interface onto the interface surface; and

a computer system adapted to communicate with the sensing device and the printer,

the computer system being configured to:

receive, from the user, a request to print the interface;

instruct the printer to print the interface on the interface surface;

sense the indicating data from the sensing device; and

perform the operation indicated by the indicating data.

~~wherein the graphical information designated by the user is at least partially~~

~~indicative, to the user, of the operation.~~

39. (original) An interface system according to claim 38, wherein the graphical information designated by the user is adjacent, or substantially coincident with, coded data upon which the indicating data is based.

40. (original) An interface system according to claim 39, wherein the graphical information takes the form of any combination of:

text;
graphics;
images;
buttons;
icons; and
hypertext links.

41. (original) An interface system according to claim 38, wherein the coded data takes the form of one or more control tags.

42. (original) An interface system according to claim 41, wherein each of the control tags defines a discrete bundle of the coded data.

43. (original) An interface system according to claim 41, wherein each of the control tags has a predetermined spatial extent on the surface.

44. (original) An interface system according claim 41, wherein the tags take the form of bar codes.

45. (original) An interface system according to claim 44, wherein the bar codes are two-dimensional bar codes.

46. (original) An interface system according to claim 41, wherein each control tag defines coded data that is unique compared to the coded data defined by other control

47. (original) An interface system according to claim 46, wherein the unique coded data associated with each control tag identifies a position of that control tag within a region of the surface.

48. (original) An interface system according to claim 47, wherein the position is identified relative to the region itself.

49. (original) An interface system according to claim 47, wherein the position is identified relative to other control tags on the same surface.

50. (original) An interface system according to claim 41, wherein each of the control tags includes a common feature in addition to the coded data.

51. (original) An interface system according to claim 50, wherein the common feature is configured to assist finding and/or recognition of the control tags by associated control tag reading apparatus.

52. (original) An interface system according to claim 50, wherein the common features are represented in a format incorporating redundancy of information.

53. (original) An interface system according to claim 41, wherein each of the control tags includes one or more orientation features for enabling a rotational orientation of the control tag being read to be ascertained.

54. (original) An interface system according to claim 53, wherein the orientation features are represented in a format incorporating redundancy of information.

55. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 41 to 54~~ claim 41, wherein each control tag is defined by a plurality of control tag elements, the coded data being encoded in and defined by the control tag elements.

56. (currently amended) An interface system according to claim 55, wherein each element of the control tag is defined by a plurality of control tag elements, the coded data being encoded in and defined by the control tag elements.

57. (original) An interface system according to claim 56, wherein the number of possible values is two.

58. (currently amended) An interface system according to claim ~~55~~ 56, wherein when representing one of the possible values, the control tag elements absorb, reflect or fluoresce electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined wavelength or range of wavelengths to a predetermined greater or lesser extent than the interface surface.

59. (currently amended) An interface system according to claim ~~55~~ 56, wherein the possible values of the control tag elements are defined by different relative absorption, reflection or fluorescence of electromagnetic radiation of a predetermined wavelength or range of wavelengths.

60. (original) An interface system according to claim 47, wherein the coded data identifies remotely stored information defining the relative position.

61. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 39 to 48~~ claim 38, wherein the coded data includes region identification information that identifies the region within which the respective coded data is disposed.

62. (original) An interface system according to claim 61, wherein the region encompasses substantially the entire surface.

63. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 38 to 51~~ claim 38, wherein the coded data includes data identification information that identifies data associated with the region within which the respective coded data is disposed.

64. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 41 to 51~~ claim 41, wherein the coded data includes region identification information that identifies the region within which the respective coded data is disposed, and at least a predetermined proportion of the control tags includes the region identification information.

51. claim 41, wherein the coded data includes data identification information that identifies

data associated with the region within which the respective coded data is disposed, and at least a predetermined proportion of the control tags includes the data identification information.

66. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 38 to 54~~ claim 38, wherein the surface is defined by a page.

67. (original) An interface system according to claim 66, wherein the page is paper or any other planar or laminar substrate.

68. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 38 to 54~~ claim 38, wherein the coded data is printed onto the interface surface by means of a printer.

69. (original) An interface system according to claim 67, wherein the printer is an ink printer.

70. (original) An interface system according to claim 68, wherein the control tags are printed using ink that is absorptive or reflective in the ultraviolet spectrum or the infrared spectrum.

71. (original) An interface system according to claim 68, wherein the printer also prints the graphical information onto the interface surface.

72. (original) An interface system according to claim 71, wherein the graphical information is printed onto the interface surface using colored or monochrome inks.

73. (original) An interface system according to claim 72, wherein the graphical information is printed onto the interface surface using one of the following combinations of colored inks:

CMY;

CMYK;

dot color.

74. (currently amended) An interface system according to ~~any one of claims 38~~
~~to 51~~ claim 38, wherein the coded data is disposed on the surface in a magnetically or
electrically readable form.